

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2003-165-E - ORDER NO. 2006-115
FEBRUARY 27, 2006

IN RE: Residents Near Lamar Highway in)	ORDER APPOINTING
Darlington, South Carolina,)	HEARING OFFICER
)	
Complainants/Petitioners,)	
)	
vs.)	
)	
Progress Energy and Pee Dee Electric)	
Cooperative, Inc.,)	
)	
Defendants/Respondents.)	
_____)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Commission's Motion to appoint Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire, Deputy Clerk, to serve as a hearing officer in the instant docket regarding the complaint of Residents near Lamar Highway in Darlington, South Carolina against Progress Energy and Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-40 (Supp. 2005). The Motion is granted.

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the

proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years' practice experience.

We find that Jocelyn G. Boyd meets this qualification, and we therefore grant the Motion appointing her as hearing officer in this case. As hearing officer in this proceeding, we direct Ms. Boyd to rule on any procedural matters in the case up to the time of the hearing.


This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)